

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-12 (Cancelled)

Claim 13 (new): A process of cleaning a filter containing residues from filtering beverages, the residues containing water-insoluble proteins and/or polyphenols attached to the filter and polysaccharides, comprising contacting the protein and/or polyphenol containing residues with a solution containing an oxidizing agent by back-flushing, said oxidizing agent being selected from a peroxide compound and a hypohalous acid and being used in the presence of a transition metal.

Claim 14 (new): The process according to claim 13, wherein the back-flush is performed at a rate of 0.5 - 100 l of the solution per h per m² of filter surface.

Claim 15 (new): The process according to claim 13, wherein the transition metal is manganese or iron.

Claim 16 (new): The process according to claim 13, wherein the transition metal is complexed with a polyamine.

Claim 17 (new): The process according to claim 13, wherein the oxidizing agent is hydrogen peroxide.

Claim 18 (new): The process according to claim 13, wherein the oxidizing agent is a peracid.

Claim 19 (new): The process according to claim 13, wherein the oxidizing agent is a hypohalous acid.

Claim 20 (new): A process of cleaning a membrane filter containing residues from filtering beverages, the residues containing water-insoluble proteins and/or polyphenols attached to the filter and polysaccharides, comprising contacting the protein and/or polyphenol containing residues with a solution containing an oxidizing agent capable of oxidizing proteins and/or polyphenols, by back-flushing.

Claim 21 (new): A process of cleaning a filter containing residues from filtering beverages, the residues comprising water-insoluble proteins and/or polyphenols attached to the filter and polysaccharides, comprising contacting the protein and/or polyphenol containing residues with an alkaline solution followed by contacting with a solution containing an oxidizing agent capable of oxidizing proteins and/or polyphenols.

Claim 22 (new): The process according to claim 21, wherein the alkaline solution has a pH between 11 and 14.